

Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Bill

Page 2: About you

Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

an individual

Which of the following best describes you? (If you are a professional or academic, but not in a subject relevant to the consultation, please choose "Member of the public".)

Member of the public

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

No Response

Please choose one of the following; if you choose the first option, please provide your name or the name of your organisation as you wish it to be published.

I would like this response to be anonymous (the response may be published, but no name)

Please insert your name or the name of your organisation. If you choose the first option above, this should be the name as you wish it to be published. If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Please provide details of a way in which we can contact you if there are queries regarding your response. Email is preferred but you can also provide a postal address or phone number. We will not publish these details.

Page 7: Your views on the proposal

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposal of giving children equal protection from assault by prohibiting all physical punishment of children?

Fully Supportive

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposal of giving children equal protection from assault by prohibiting all physical punishment of children?

Please explain the reasons for your response

I am fully supportive of children having equal protection from assault, by prohibiting all physical punishment of children, as it is unmoral and unfair that adults have legal protection against being abused, but vulnerable children aren't legally covered by a law which protects them against abuse. This needs change, if anything, children need more legal protection than adults, as children are more vulnerable than adults, and can't protect themselves against abuse as easily as adults. Adults could also abuse children knowing that children can't do as much about it, and knowing that legally they won't be punished.

Q2. Could the aims of the proposal be better delivered in another way (without a Bill in the Scottish Parliament)?

No

Please explain the reasons for your response

A bill makes the most sense, as if this bill passes, it will become a law, meaning that it would be illegal for adults to abuse children, full stop.

Q3. What do you think would be the main advantages, if any, of giving children equal protection from assault by prohibiting all physical punishment of children?

Ensures that adults get punished if they abuse children.

Discourages adults from abusing children in the first place knowing that it is illegal to assault/physically punish them.

Gives children equal protection as adults in regards to abuse.

Q4. What do you think would be the main disadvantages, if any, of giving children equal protection from assault by prohibiting all physical punishment of children?

Could end up with a small minority of people abusing the law to claim that an adult has abused the child, even if they hadn't.

Can't think of any other disadvantages.

Page 11: Financial implications

Q5. Taking account of both costs and potential savings, what financial impact would you expect the proposed Bill to have?

Unsure

Page 12: Equalities

Q6. What overall impact is the proposed Bill likely to have on the following protected groups (under the Equality Act 2010): race, disability, sex, gender re-assignment, age, religion and belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity?

Slightly positive

Q7. Could any negative impact of the proposed Bill on any of these protected groups be minimised or avoided?

Unsure.

Page 14: Sustainability of the proposal

Q8. Do you consider that the proposed Bill can be delivered sustainably i.e. without having a disproportionate economic, social and/or environmental impact?

Yes

Page 15: General

Q9. Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the proposal?

Good proposal bill, which tackles an issue which needs to be sorted.